



# General Assembly

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## Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

### Activities of Member States for young people

#### Note by the Secretariat\*

#### Addendum

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\* The present document contains information received from Member States between 6 February and 19 April 2001.



## I. Introduction

1. In the report of its forty-third session,<sup>1</sup> the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space took note of the agreement of the Working Group of the Whole of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee that Member States and their relevant national institutions should be invited to report to the Subcommittee on the activities that they had carried out for young people (A/AC.105/736, annex II, para. 16).

2. The information submitted by Member States as at 5 February 2001 is contained in the note by the Secretariat of 4 December 2000 and an addendum (A/AC.105/755 and Add.1). The present document contains information submitted by a Member State between 6 February and 19 April 2001.

## II. Replies received from Member States

### Canada

1. The Canadian Space Agency (CSA) affirmed its commitment to promoting education in space science and engineering in 1995 with the establishment of its Education and Youth Awareness programme. In the twenty-first century, CSA is developing an integrated approach to bring space science and technology to Canadian youth, to inspire and prepare them for the challenges of the new millennium. The cornerstone of the programme rests squarely on the development of long-term collaborative relationships with educators, not-for-profit youth and science-oriented organizations, youth media and other federal government departments.

2. Through the creation of the first Canadian Space Alliance in May 2000, the Canadian Council of Science Centres (CCSC) and CSA have agreed to work together to provide quality programmes and information on space to youth across Canada. CCSC and its 32 member institutions continue to develop projects and activities in the fields of science and technology with CSA facilitating communication of Canadian space-related content to CCSC member institutions across the country.

3. Canada's SchoolNet, a department of Industry Canada, recently signed a collaborative agreement with CSA to promote all human exploration missions via a new collaborative web site and through their quarterly magazines sent to students and educators across the nation. The agreement also served to create a framework for the development of a virtual learning programme offering students and educators the opportunity to participate in CSA "electronic classrooms" (webcasts) throughout the school year, thus bringing CSA astronauts, scientists and engineers into the classroom. The agreement is part of SchoolNet's mandate to work with the provinces, territories and the private sector to extend connectivity into the classroom and to connect all First Nation communities to the Internet by the end of fiscal year 2000-2001.

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<sup>1</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 20 (A/55/20).*

4. In May, CSA hosted its second annual Embrace Space Day, an international celebration of achievements in space exploration designed to encourage youth to learn about science, technology and mathematics. While the national event, a live and webcasted presentation by astronaut John Glenn of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) of the United States of America and CSA astronaut Dave Williams, was organized by CSA, regional events were undertaken by science centres across the nation.
5. Space for Species, a web-based programme developed in collaboration with the Canadian Wildlife Federation and the Canadian Wildlife Service, was designed to provide students with an opportunity to explore the use of space-based tools for the purpose of better understanding the plight of endangered species in Canada. More than 500 schools are participating actively in the programme.
6. On 30 November 2000, CSA unveiled Kidstation, a mission-specific, youth-oriented section of the CSA youth web site. On that site, students can find over 40 new pages of information and activities related to current mission events and mission-related science topics such as solar energy, living and working in space, plasma energy and the solar system.
7. CSA contributed to "Students on Ice", a programme designed to expose senior high school students to global environmental issues through a research and exploration expedition to Antarctica, by providing actual RADARSAT-1 images, as well as developing and disseminating an information-based webcast hosted by a Canadian scientist.
8. Finally, the CSA Youth Awareness Grants and Contributions programme awarded more than 10 grants to not-for-profit youth-related organizations across the nation to develop programmes, projects, events and materials to increase awareness of the Canadian space programme among youth throughout the country. The CSA Space Sciences Programme also awarded two Canadian university students prestigious scientific scholarships to participate in a training programme at the NASA John F. Kennedy Space Center.